



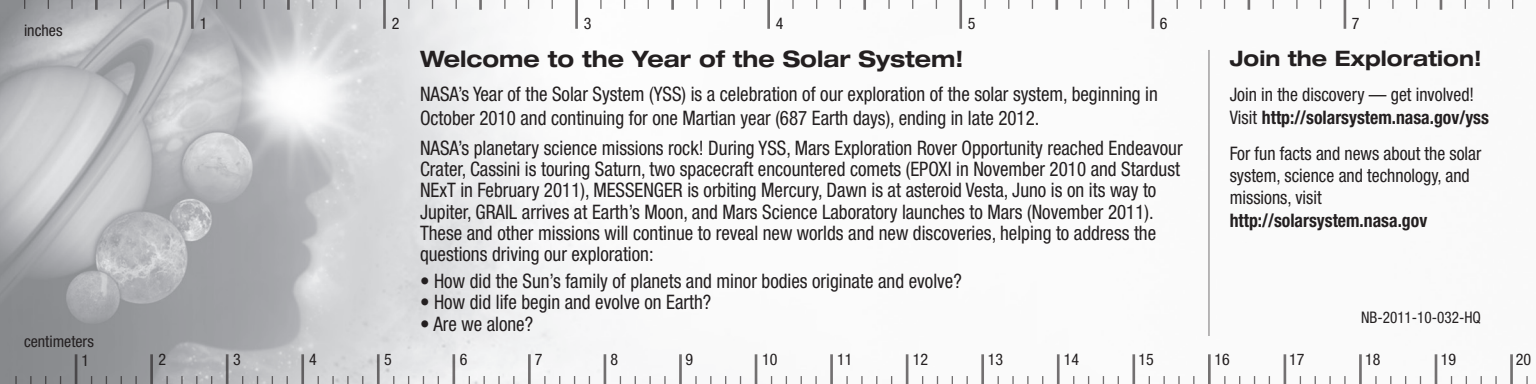
# **Year of the Solar System**

# NEW WORLDS, NEW DISCOVERIES

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration



[www.nasa.gov](http://www.nasa.gov)



## Welcome to the Year of the Solar System!

NASA's Year of the Solar System (YSS) is a celebration of our exploration of the solar system, beginning in October 2010 and continuing for one Martian year (687 Earth days), ending in late 2012.

NASA's planetary science missions rock! During YSS, Mars Exploration Rover Opportunity reached Endeavour Crater, Cassini is touring Saturn, two spacecraft encountered comets (EPOXI in November 2010 and Stardust NExT in February 2011), MESSENGER is orbiting Mercury, Dawn is at asteroid Vesta, Juno is on its way to Jupiter, GRAIL arrives at Earth's Moon, and Mars Science Laboratory launches to Mars (November 2011). These and other missions will continue to reveal new worlds and new discoveries, helping to address the questions driving our exploration:

- How did the Sun's family of planets and minor bodies originate and evolve?
- How did life begin and evolve on Earth?
- Are we alone?

## Join the Exploration!

Join in the discovery — get involved!  
Visit <http://solarsystem.nasa.gov/yss>

For fun facts and news about the solar system, science and technology, and missions, visit  
<http://solarsystem.nasa.gov>

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